

SAFETY MATTERS CONSTRUCTION SERIES



STRUCK - BY

Falling/Flying Objects

Understanding the Danger

You are at risk from *falling* objects when you are beneath cranes, scaffolds, etc., or where overhead work is being performed. There is a danger from *flying* objects when power tools, or activities like pushing, pulling, or prying, may cause objects to become airborne. Injuries can range from minor abrasions to concussions, blindness, or death.

Avoiding the Hazards

In general, wearing hardhats, stacking materials to prevent sliding, falling, or collapse, and using protective measures such as toe boards and debris nets helps minimize the potential for injury.



Power Tools, Machines, etc.

- Use safety glasses, goggles, face shields, etc., where machines or tools may cause flying particles.
- Inspect tools, such as saws and lathes, to insure protective guards are in good condition.
- Make sure you are trained in the proper operation of power tools.

Cranes and Hoists

- Avoid working underneath loads being moved.
- Barricade hazard areas and post warning signs.
- Inspect cranes and hoists to see that all components, such as wire rope, lifting hooks, chains, etc., are in good condition.
- Do not exceed lifting capacity of cranes and hoists.

Overhead Work

- Secure tools and materials to prevent them from falling on people below.
- Barricade hazard areas and post warning signs.
- Use toe boards, screens, or guardrails on scaffolds to prevent falling objects.
- Use debris nets, catch platforms, or canopies to catch or deflect falling objects.

Compressed Air

- Reduce compressed air used for cleaning to 30 psi, and only use with appropriate guarding and protective equipment.
- Never clean clothing with compressed air.

Safety Matters Construction Series information is extracted directly from OSHA safety materials. For additional information consult www.OSHA.gov

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